

**Main Entry:** **pari-mutuel** [Pronunciation Guide](#)**Pronunciation:** |pare|myüch(əw)əl, -chwəl**Function:** *noun***Inflected Form(s):** *plural pari-mutuels \-lz\; also in sense 1***par-i-s-mutuels \|pare|m-\****Etymology:** French *pari mutuel*, literally, mutual stake**1 :** a system of betting (as on a horse race) in which those who bet on the winner share the total stakes minus a small percent for the management**2 or pari-mutuel machine :** a machine for registering and indicating the number and nature of bets made (as on a horse race) in the pari-mutuel system of betting**Citation format for this entry:****"pari-mutuel."**

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**par·i·mu·tu·el** also **par·i·mu·tu·el**  (pär'ē-myoo'thōō-əl) 

**NOUN:**

1. A system of betting on races whereby the winners divide the total amount bet, after deducting management expenses, in proportion to the sums they have wagered individually.
2. A machine that records such bets and computes the payoffs.

**ETYMOLOGY:**

French : *pari*, *wager* (from *parier*, *to wager*, from Latin *pariare*, *to settle a debt*, from *pār* , *par-*, *equal*; see *per-*<sup>2</sup> in Indo-European roots) + *mutuel*, *mutual* (from Old French; see **mutual**)



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